

oppose the committee amendment on one of the bills that decreases revenue on the beer and alcohol tax and advance all of them forward, but let them sit there, not take them up on Select File until we've gone through, we see what the Appropriations Committee is going to do with the P2 budget, till we've had an opportunity on the full Legislature to advance that bill on Select File and continue to have all of this debate onto Select File. It's obvious we've had kind of a stare down process on whether we do revenue first or whether we do appropriations first. I think probably to make everybody happy and to make the ultimate decisions we need to, we're going to kind of have to herd all of these bills along together. I don't think we ought to...I'm showing my affinity for rural Nebraska here by using an agriculture metaphor here. We ought to herd all of these together, not let any of the strays get out of the pack and continue to see what we have together when we get to Select File, but I think the revenue bills maybe ought to go on to Select File and that the appropriations, the full appropriations package, all of our spending options ought to then be brought out and we ought to then consider that before we go any further. That's my meager little suggestion to our process.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Withem. Mr. Clerk, do you have a motion on the desk?

CLERK: I do, Madam President, Senators Elmer and others would move to suspend Rule 6, Section 3 so as to allow for the bracketing of LB 98, LB 741, LB 22 and LB 595.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. If more than anything else, this will divide this question that we're having two debates about, whether to tax these sundry items of groceries, that's one argument. Whether or not we want to consider what we're going to spend before we add taxes is the other element. This bracket motion would suspend Rule...the bracketing rule which implies that you can bracket only one bill at a time, so that we could bracket the four revenue raising bills until the mainline budget bill, LB 541 is advanced to E & R Final. And of course, we all recognize that any time we can unbracket by a simple majority of those that vote at the request of the introducers. But this would allow the debate on the P1 or the P2 or the additions that we may feel we need to spend and then match that with the revenue increases that are